**No New Allowance**

*By Debra Smart and Illustrated by Joy Allen*

"Here's your allowance," said Mom.

"Do I have to have an allowance?" asked Todd.

"You don't want your allowance?"

"I want a commission," said Todd.

"A commission?" Mom looked puzzled.

"We learned about it at school. It's like when a car salesman gets money for each car he sells. Instead of getting my five-dollar allowance, I'd get paid for each chore I do. I can make more than just five dollars if I work on commission."

Todd handed a piece of paper to his mom. "I even made a chore chart to show how it would work."

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Set table: 25¢** | **Take out trash: 25¢** |
| **Load dishwasher: 25¢** | **Make bed: 25¢** |
| **Clean bedroom: 25¢** | **Fold towels: 25¢** |

"Hmmm," said Mom. "These prices look fair to me. I guess we can try this if you really want to."

During the next week, whenever Todd finished a chore, he placed a sticker on the chart. On Saturday, he showed his mom the chart. "Let's see," she said. "You loaded the dishwasher four times, you folded towels two times, and you took out the trash three times. And that adds up to—"

Only two dollars and twenty-five cents!" groaned Todd. "Can I just have my five-dollar allowance?"

Mom smiled and shook her head. "You're the one who wanted to work on commission," she said, counting out Todd's earnings. "Let's see how you do next week."

Todd sighed. He didn't know why he had thought a commission would be such a good idea. It didn't seem to be working out too well.

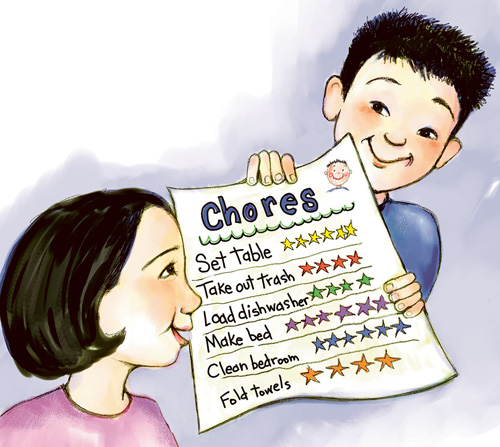
The next week, Todd did every chore listed on the chart almost every day. On Saturday morning, Todd ran to Mom with his chore chart full of stickers.

Mom smiled as she looked at the chart. "This looks much better," she said. "Let's add it up."

"I already did, Mom!" said Todd. "You owe me seven dollars and fifty cents!"

"Are you sure you don't want me to give you your five-dollar allowance?" asked Mom.

Todd laughed. "Nope. No more allowance!"



1. Which word best describes Todd?
2. brave
3. caring
4. determined
5. polite
6. Which sentence from the passage BEST explains why Todd did not want an allowance?

1. “Let’s see how you do next week.”
2. “It’s like when a car salesman gets money for each car he sells.”
3. “I can make more than just five dollars if I work on commission.”
4. “Instead of getting my five-dollar allowance, I’d get paid for each chore I do.”
5. How did Todd’s attitude towards doing chores change AFTER receiving a much smaller allowance?
6. Todd wants to stop doing his chores.
7. Todd decides to work harder on his chores.
8. Todd realizes the chores should be worth more money.
9. Todd feels disappointed about how much money he earned.
10. Which word BEST describes Todd’s mom?
11. energetic
12. frustrated
13. humorous
14. patient
15. At the end of the passage, Todd feels

1. happy that he filled up his chore chart.
2. disappointed that he will not get an allowance.
3. proud that he made more money on commission.
4. foolish that he did not take the five-dollar allowance.
5. Read the sentence from the passage.

**“A commission?” Mom looked puzzled.**

Which word has the SAME meaning as the word *puzzled*?

1. confused
2. embarrassed
3. organized
4. surprised
5. Which sentence BEST explains what the story is about?
6. A boy who is trying to please his mom.
7. A boy who is trying to earn more money.
8. A boy who does not want to do his chores.
9. A boy who does not want any more allowance.
10. What is the purpose of the second illustration in the story?
11. to suggest that Todd wants to give up
12. to show that Todd earns some money
13. to show that Todd is sad about not earning a lot of allowance
14. to suggest that Todd is thinking of a way to earn more commission
15. What is the MOST LIKELY reason Todd makes a chore chart?
16. Todd learns about it at school.
17. Todd needs to explain how his prices are fair.
18. Todd enjoys putting stickers next to all his jobs.
19. Todd wants to show his mom how his commission would work.
20. At the beginning of the story, Todd feels an allowance

1. is better than commission.
2. earns less money than commission.
3. requires more work than commission.
4. can be faster to earn than commission.

Answer Key:

1. Correct Answer is C, DOK 2
2. Correct Answer is C, DOK 2
3. Correct Answer is D, DOK 2
4. Correct Answer is D, DOK 2
5. Correct Answer is C, DOK 2
6. Correct Answer is A, DOK 2
7. Correct Answer is B, DOK 2
8. Correct Answer is D, DOK 3
9. Correct Answer is D, DOK 2
10. Correct Answer is B, DOK 2